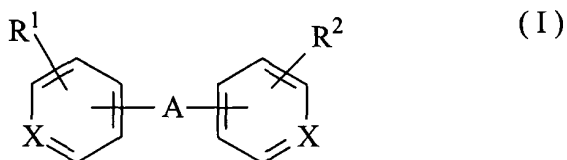


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph located at Column 2, lines 9-26 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention provides a negative type resist composition comprising alkali soluble resin, acid generator, crosslinking agent, and a basic compound represented by the following formula (I)



wherein, A represents sulfide group, disulfide group or bivalent aliphatic hydrocarbon residue which may be optionally interrupted by imino group, [sulfide group, or disulfide group,] X represents nitrogen atom or C(NH₂), and R¹ and R² independently represent hydrogen or alkyl.

Please replace the paragraph located at Column 2, line 46 through Column 3, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

In Formula (I), A represents sulfide group, disulfide group or bivalent aliphatic hydrocarbon residue which may be interrupted by imino group[, sulfide group or disulfide group]. The hydrocarbon residue may be saturated, that is, alkylene, or unsaturated, for

example, alkenylene. Imino group(-NH₂-) may optionally be interposed in the hydrocarbon residue. The imino may exist in plurality in A, but in general, one imino exists. The aliphatic hydrocarbon residue represented by A has a total of 1 to 10 carbons including the case with imino interposed. When A consists of only carbon atom and hydrogen atom, the number of carbons is preferably between 1 and 4. If the number of carbons is 2 or more, they may be either of normal chain or branched, although the linear type, such as linear alkylene or linear alkenylene, is preferable. That is, linear alkylene having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, linear alkenylene having 2 to 4 carbon atoms and the like are preferable. If A is bivalent aliphatic hydrocarbon residue interrupted with imino, the number of total carbons is preferably between 2 and 6. In this case, too, the group consisting of carbon atom and hydrogen atom existing on both side of imino group may be either of normal chain or branched, if the number of carbons is two or more, respectively. Iminobisalkylene is more preferred as A, and particularly, iminobisalkylene having 2 to 6 carbon atoms is preferred.